

REMARKS

Claims 24-44 remain in the application.

In the Office Action, claims 24-44 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter. The Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

In paragraph 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that the words "sensing transducers" is vague and unclear. The Applicant respectfully disagrees on this assertion. Sensing transducers can be sensors or detectors. A person having ordinary skill in the art should appreciate the meaning of "sensing transducers" from reading the application. In the specification, some exemplary sensing transducers are described at page 27, last paragraph starting from line 28 to line 31, as "two electrodes 654, 656 to measure conductivity, and a temperature measuring probe (e.g., a thermocouple) 658 to monitor the temperature of the fixed mass of aqueous solution 652. These transducers 654, 656 and 658 ...". The Applicant respectfully submits that meaning of "sensing transducers" is definite and the rejection should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

In paragraph 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that the term "sample fluid" in claims 24-44 is indefinite because the specification does not clearly redefine the term. The Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner. Descriptions and support for this term can be found in the specification. For example, at page 25, last paragraph, starting from line 23, the specification describes "The probe 402 includes an enclosure 410 that houses a liquid 412 that is responsive to ultrasound energy within the liquid 407." In the same paragraph, starting from line 27, the specification describes "By way of example, the liquid 412 can emit spectral energy or free radicals, and these characteristics can be measured by the subsystem 414." For another example, at page 37, the fourth paragraph, starting from line 20, the specification describes "The probe 650 is similar in operation to the probe 402 of FIG. 34 and includes a fixed sample volume of aqueous solution 652 (or other chemistry that changes conductivity in an ultrasonic field) contained in the probe tip 650a." The Applicant respectfully submits that the term "sample liquid" in the claims is supported by the specification, and the meaning of the term is definite, and a person having ordinary skill in the art should appreciate the meaning of the term "sample

liquid" in the claims from reading the application. The rejection should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

In paragraph 2 of the Office Action, the drawings of the subject application were objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) because, as indicated by the Examiner, the sensing transducers within sample fluid (as claimed in the claims) were not shown in the drawings. The Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner on this assertion. The structure "the sensing transducers within sample liquid" as claimed is illustrated in FIGS. 34 and 37. For example, FIG. 37 illustrates sensing transducers 654, 656 and 658 positioned within an aqueous solution 652, as described in the specification at page 27 last paragraph.


On the basis of the foregoing remarks, the Applicant respectfully submits that all the pending claims 24-44 are now in condition of allowance. If there are any questions regarding these amendments and remarks, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

No additional costs are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this paper. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-1133.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: _____

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